

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-13: Cancelled.

Please add the following new claims.

14. (New) A method for surface treatment comprising the steps of:
supplying cleaning gas to an object to be processed while cooling the object so as to make cleaning gas adhere to a surface of the object;
heating the object to activate the cleaning gas adhering to the surface of the object so as to remove oxide formed on the surface of the object;
subjecting the object to reducing gas activated by plasma to remove substance derived from the cleaning gas still remaining on the surface of the object.

15. (New) A method for surface treatment according to claim 16 wherein, in the step of supplying cleaning gas to the object, the object mounted on a mount is cooled by cooling the mount.

16. (New) A method for surface treatment according to claim 14 wherein, in the step of heating the object, the object is positioned apart from the mount.

17. (New) A method for surface treatment according to claim 14 wherein, the cleaning gas is fluorine-containing gas.

18. (New) A method for surface treatment according to claim 14 wherein, the cleaning gas is chlorine-containing gas.

19. (New) A method for surface treatment according to claim 14 wherein, the reducing gas is H₂ gas.

20. (New) A method for surface treatment according to claim 14 wherein, in the step of supplying cleaning gas to the object, the temperature of the surface of the object is 20°C or below.

21. (New) A method for surface treatment comprising the steps of:
supplying cleaning gas to an object to be processed while cooling the object so as to make cleaning gas adhere to a surface of the object;
emitting ultraviolet rays to activate the cleaning gas adhering to the surface of the object so as to remove oxide formed on the surface of the object;
subjecting the object to reducing gas activated by plasma to remove substance derived from the cleaning gas still remaining on the surface of the object.